

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 091612
ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 DHA-02 /052 R

DRAFTED BY EA/K:FHMISCH:JCM
APPROVED BY EA/K:PRMAYHEW
EA/P:MSMITH (SUBS.)
-----230728Z 092105 /13

P R 222338Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS STATE 091612

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, KN, KS, JA

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE

1. FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED FOR APRIL 22 PRESS
BRIEFING:

QUOTE

Q: A CHOSEN SOREN PRESS REPRESENTATIVE IN A BY-LINED
NYTIMES PIECE TODAY, CALLS ATTENTION TO WHAT HE SAYS IS
THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S WILLINGNESS TO APPROACH NORTH
KOREA. CAN YOU PROVIDE CONFIRMATION OF THIS AND GIVE US
THE DETAILS? HE ALSO MENTIONS HUMAN RIGHTS AS AN ELEMENT
IN US POLICY. CAN YOU PROVIDE ANY COMMENT ON THE HUMAN
RIGHTS SITUATION IN NORTH KOREA?

A: WE BELIEVE THAT VITAL TO ANY PEACE IN THE AREA IS THE
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RESUMPTION OF DIRECT TALKS BETWEEN SOUTH AND NORTH KOREA.
AS FOR THE UNITED STATES, WE ARE FULLY PREPARED TO ENGAGE
IN DISCUSSIONS WITH NORTH KOREA ABOUT ESTABLISHING
A MORE PERMANENT PEACE IN THE PENINSULA PROVIDED THE
REPUBLIC OF KOREA (SOUTH KOREA) IS A PARTICIPANT
IN THOSE TALKS. OBVIOUSLY, SOUTH KOREA,
A NATION OF 35 MILLION

PEOPLE WITH A DYNAMIC ECONOMY, AND AN ACCEPTED POSITION IN THE WORLD, SHOULD BE A PARTY TO ANY TALKS WHICH AFFECT ITS FUTURE SECURITY.

THE ARTICLE ALSO MADE A REFERENCE TO HUMAN RIGHTS WHICH WE FIND PARADOXICAL. AS EVERYONE KNOWS, WE HAVE BEEN CRITICAL OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN SOUTH KOREA. IN OUR OPINION, HOWEVER, GIVEN THE NATURE OF THE NORTH KOREAN REGIME, HUMAN RIGHTS AS WE KNOW THEM JUST DON'T EXIST IN THE NORTH.

Q: WHAT SORT OF CONTACT, IF ANY, HAS THERE BEEN BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND NORTH KOREA SINCE THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION TOOK OFFICE?

A: AS HAS BEEN REPORTED, THERE HAVE BEEN SOME PRO-FORMA CONTACTS WITH NORTH KOREA. THE NORTH KOREANS, THROUGH INTERMEDIARIES, HAVE PASSED US MESSAGES WITH VIEWS SIMILAR TO THOSE IN THE TIMES ARTICLE. OUR RESPONSES HAVE BEEN AS WE INDICATED ABOVE. END QUOTE

2. NO QUESTIONS ON KOREA WERE ASKED AT BRIEFING.
VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, HUMAN RIGHTS, THE PRESS, CONTACTS WITH COMMUNIST OFFICIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE091612
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: FHMISCH:JCM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770141-1239
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770427/aaaaaxbc.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5cf916a0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2716967
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS GUIDANCE
TAGS: PFOR, KN, KS, JA
To: SEOUL
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5cf916a0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009